UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

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PUBLIC SAFETY NATIONAL COORDINATING COMMITTEE

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INTEROPERABILITY SUBCOMMITTEE

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WEDNESDAY

JULY 16, 2003

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The Subcommittee was called to order at 9:28 a.m. in the Commission Meeting Room of the Federal Communications Commission, $445\ 12^{\text{th}}$ Street, S.W., Washington, D.C., Glen Nash, Chairman, presiding.

PRESENT:

JOHN POWELL Subcommittee Chairman

DAVE BUCHANAN Member STEVE DEVINE Member

MICHAEL WILHELM Designated Federal Official

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P-R-O-C-E-E-D-I-N-G-S

9:28 a.m.

CHAIRMAN POWELL: On the record. For those of you that did not download copies of the agenda and several other documents, they are over on the table on my left. Our usual secretary isn't with us. We're going to try to go on. His stand-in is going to take the job for us today. Burt, do we have access to the projects today? We have one table that going to be a lot better to put up there since it's in color then to try and hand out copies of it.

If everyone has copies of the agenda, we'll convene the meeting. I could have taken number two off of the agenda since we aren't going to have any further meetings as far as additional members of the Subcommittee. Are there any additions or changes to the agenda that anyone would like to offer from the floor? Seeing none, we will move ahead with the agenda as it was published.

Minutes from the last Washington meeting are pending. Hopefully we'll get those out by tomorrow. Otherwise they will be included in the

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compendium that Bob Schlieman is putting together,
Michael, for the final report from the Subcommittee.

I also distributed a document update yesterday which has all of the documents through this meeting on it. Those of you on the list server should be able to get that if you need it. Otherwise I can give it to you electronically.

Agenda Item No. 6 for Working Group I,
Bob Schlieman is not here. He has been collecting
documents. I will get him the final documents. We
have to go through and make sure we have the latest
versions of those. He will then incorporate them
into a final report that will be submitted to the
Commission unfortunately after we're all done here.
But at least there'll be a record of all the
documents electronically.

From PSWN, do we have any additional information on the operations side?

MR. PICKERAL: David Pickeral, -?

Hamilton Business Program Support. To my knowledge

the PSWN program doesn't have anything to add but

perhaps later in the day, Rick Murphy or some of the

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others from the PSWN program may be there. I know there are no major illuminating issues we have. I think everything is pretty much done from our perspective.

CHAIRMAN POWELL: Okay. To the meat of today's meeting, Working Group III, actually both Steve and Dave have some major items to discuss today. So, Steve, I'll turn it over to you. We did distribute a document this morning and there are limited number of copies. It's one that I can put up on the screen if we need to.

At the last meeting just as background,
Michael asked for some specific rule language with
regards to some of the proposals that we had. That
document I gave you there is in draft form. We
actually wrote it as if we were writing it for the
Commission for rulemaking. I think you'll see that
from the text. So, it addresses SIEC creation
requirements renaming an expansion among others.
While you get started on that, Steve, what I'm going
to do is get the frequency chart ready to display it.

COMMISSIONER DEVINE: Thank you, John.

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One of the issues we brought up at the last meeting was the concept of the SIEC expansion and perhaps renaming to a body that might indicate more inclusive participation from local agencies' concept of a statewide interoperability executive committee that inferred perhaps some control and some administration and management on the state side but not necessarily control.

in nature. Some are actually involved in their procurement process for grant money dispersion and some actually control the state license spectrum and 700 and some are actually venturing out of the 700 environment and controlling interoperability or at least recommending interoperability parameters both operation and technical outside the 700 band.

So we were looking for some kind of a standardization and have come up with a couple of recommendations, many of which will probably generate some discussion which is good. The first is to mandate a statewide interoperability executive committee and for the Commission to mandate somebody

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which could be an existing body within the state but they will have some parameters indicating that it's inclusive and not exclusive in its participation and in the conclusions. Because as we all know, the people who use the channels in the state really make up all of the public safety entities at all levels of government.

We can envision the Commission issuing a notice stating that it needs to form and they need to be provided copies of the meeting notice in a distribution similar how regional planning committees are disseminated and how the information is put out on those as well as a convener being established and a chairperson being elected at the first meeting.

Like I said, we're not talking about an additional burden I don't think any more than what's going on.

In many states, there are existing bodies but perhaps some of their characteristics, for example, being inclusive to local agencies, might be a little different twist to it.

So that's an idea. One of the reasons for that idea is we feel that the SIEC probably

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should be responsible for a product and that product should probably be a document indicating exactly what the use is of those interoperable channels within the state. As we all know, each states uses them differently with different parameters and different operational requirements. We are talking about improving the communication between regions and between states to promote the awareness of how these channels are used.

The SIEC being required, they would also be required to produce a document that would be updated every three years and posted on a database that could be made aware to the other adjacent regions and all other public safety entities as it's simply a promote awareness concept that we feel is long overdue because many of us don't know how our neighbors use things. To put the arms around that, it's not as much indicating what people should do or shouldn't do. There should be consensus reached and then the conclusions should be disseminated.

A lot of what's gone on in the past is that people have plans and they are stuck in

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somebody's file folder. That's not a good way to communicate. Those are some of the concepts with regard to the SIEC expansion, renaming and mandating the SIEC.

In addition, we spoke at the last meeting regarding the expansion of the SIEC into the other bands in the associated interoperability channels.

John is going to put up a spreadsheet that's the recommendation. It was indicated last time.

There are some designated channel conventions and channel names with sequential numbers associated with them and band indicators that we think also should be recommended and required in as far as after a certain point the equipment should be programmed with these mandatory channel displays after a certain point allowing some period of time for migration. When that channel is put in, it will only display this name. So he is going to show some of those recommended channel names that we have been working on here for the last six months or so.

That should paint a pretty good picture as to exactly what we are discussing there. So we

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have renaming to statewide interoperability executive committees, mandating and also the expansion of the authority into the VHF/UHF perhaps even the NTIA Redbook channels when available 800. We would like to see the Commission issue a proceeding that addressed interoperability spectrum as a unique band as a unique group of channels that spans multiple bands.

Those are some of the highlights in this document. There is some additional language and some parameters. We also have a copy of some minimum interoperable guidelines. It's actually an example of what one of these operational plans could be. It specifically addresses VHF and UHF but it's an example of what some of the operational and technical issues that need to be addressed so it's a good starting point.

Where exactly these plans from each state would be posted is a topic. The NPSTC database certainly would be one candidate for that as long as people are aware of where they can be accessed and the information should be current. It really doesn't

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make a difference where it's posted. In this
particular instance, it's doing a better job of
communicating how we utilize these channels and that
goes for 700. Some of the same issues we've
addressed in 700 through the NCC process actually
would benefit the dedicated interoperable spectrum in
other bands.
MR. WILHELM: Steve, I have one comment.
You said you had drafted this document so it read
like an ECC rule - I think you've achieved that - On

COMMISSIONER DEVINE: At 1:30 a.m., those things began to blur last night.

the second page, it says "SEICs will annually provide

an updated version every three years."

MR. WILHELM: But that sounds like one of our rules. Thank you very much.

COMMISSIONER DEVINE: Duly noted. I told John this morning if nothing else make sure you put "DRAFT" on the bottom there. It needs to be reviewed but in concept those are the highlights. We were hoping to get some feedback today on how this general concept would be. It appears to be make sense in

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some areas. I couldn't tell you that there wouldn't be some areas that say "We've called this channel this for so many years and we're going to continue to call it that until our last day."

So there's going to be some issues with that but it's not as much telling people how it is that they need to do business. It's just communicating between us how we do business to better interoperate. That goes both intrastate and interstate.

MR. WILHELM: Are there any changes from the document that you submitted previously, the channel nomenclature?

Some. In the previous document, for example, the NTIA Redbook, UHF channels actually began with a one instead of a four. There's some little idiosyncracies that we've corrected since then.

We've also actually added the subscriber unit mandatory channels in 700. I think it's just two calling channels and six IO channels. We've added those. There are some language on that so we fine

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tuned it a bit more. It's generally the same 1 2 document. CHAIRMAN POWELL: We didn't add anything 3 that we haven't discussed before. What we did is we 4 5 make some typographical corrections and we added some into this latest matrix which is what I was hoping to 6 7 display on the screen. We added some additional text to document decisions that were reached earlier and 8 9 to actually include them into that matrix. 10 MR. WILHELM: Okay. Thanks. 11 CHAIRMAN POWELL: That was distributed 12 and I e-mailed that to you. 13 MR. WILHELM: Yes, I have it. COMMISSIONER DEVINE: 14 We're getting 15 closer on that. There's a lot of opportunities for 16 talkarounds and non-talkarounds and we went through 17 it last night once again later in the evening or 18 earlier in the morning as it goes. But I think we're getting down to finding very few errors on the 19 20 document up until now. 21 CHAIRMAN POWELL: I would say that the

document at this point is that it's in its final

1	form. I was hoping to be able to display it so we
2	could take a look at it. It is in its final form. I
3	would like to thank Dave Eierman and a few others
4	that worked on putting that into the nice color
5	matrix that it's now in.
6	COMMISSIONER DEVINE: Any comments or
7	reaction or discussion on all band interoperability
8	and some of the parameters and some of the issues
9	that might arise from that, we would certainly like
10	to hear some comments from the group.
11	COMMISSIONER BUCHANAN: I have one
12	question.
13	COMMISSIONER DEVINE: Certainly.
14	COMMISSIONER BUCHANAN: If the states for
15	whatever reason do not form an SIEC then this is
16	still back to the regional plan to do that function.
17	COMMISSIONER DEVINE: As long as it's
18	inclusive but I think we really should strive to have
19	a group that?s named statewide to make everybody
20	aware that it's not controlled by any individual
21	entity and it is inclusive. So if the RPC wants to

have a subcommittee that is their statewide

interoperability executive committee but I think there should be a body that has that title so everybody's aware of its function and what its responsibilities are.

If that falls to the RPC, then that's fine. I would really like to see a mandate. I don't how much it can be mandated in today's world. I don't know if that's doable or not.

COMMISSIONER BUCHANAN: Well, I guess that's my question. I don't think the FCC can order the states to form some committee if they feel they don't want to. But certainly the way they have it written now, it falls back to the regional planning groups though. I think if it stays that way it would be fine.

COMMISSIONER DEVINE: But I think as long as it's indicated and the RPC process is inclusive inherently so.

CHAIRMAN POWELL: The idea, David, was that there would be an SIEC in each state. It could be a state function or it could be a subcommittee of the RPC for lack of a better word describing it.

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that. We had a meeting with SAFECOM several months ago in its current format. They are extremely interested in having a single point of contact within the states and access to documents so that if there is a major incident, they can pull up real time, the frequency configurations, which agencies are in which bands, etc. in the area that's impacted to be able to devise an appropriate communications response.

now we're getting more and more public safety
interoperability channels that aren't discipline
specific so that really requires some better
communication between agencies both in-state and outof-state, interstate agencies that butt up against
each other. We need to do a better job of
communicating what it is we're doing and how we're
doing it.

CHAIRMAN POWELL: And also out of that meeting was SAFECOM came and requested that these interoperability documents be housed in a single ongoing warehouse so that they could be accessible of

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course and controlled so that only appropriate people have access to them.

COMMISSIONER DEVINE: The renewal process simply came out so it wasn't just some archaic document that wasn't current and it really shouldn't be there. So it's the three year renewal or whatever it would take, but I would like to think if something drastically changed with regard to the use of interoperability spectrum in a state it would be updated. Emil.

MR. VOGEL: Emil Vogel. Just a question on the lower bands below 700. Are you talking of the newly identified interop channels only?

actually designated discipline specific interoperability channels in low band. They are limitation 19 channels as well as the VHF and UHF, police mutual aid, those things. We are not thinking of a concept to change the way people use those things. We're probably just wanting to communicate better as to what it is we're doing with them.

MR. VOGEL: Okay, because there are none

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somewhere else.

COMMISSIONER DEVINE: Right.

MR. VOGEL: The second question was on the multi-state you need to keep that regional as Dave brought out. You need to keep it together because otherwise the Region 8s and the ones in California were bumped up against each other.

COMMISSIONER DEVINE: Right.

CHAIRMAN POWELL: The real problem, Emil, there is the interoperability. The SIECs really need to operate on a state-basis, and when you get into a multi-state situation with an SIEC, it can really get complicated because of the mutual aid packs that our state government function by definition.

I think we are lucky in that where we have multi-state regions there are SIECs in each of the states that have taken that. I'm not aware of any state that's a participant in a multi-state region that does not have an SIEC. Whether they are meeting it or not is another question to be addressed. Certainly California's is not met yet. It would be a problem if we had a multi-state

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regional planning committee trying to assume an SIEC role. What I'm going to do, Steve, is I'm going to dump this onto a floppy and we'll ask them if they can display it from in there.

COMMISSIONER DEVINE: Okay. Any other comments?

MR. PICKERAL: David Pickeral. John, I'm just going to verify your comment. To our knowledge, every state, all 50 now because there were a couple that were stragglers, has indicated at the very least the intent to form an SIEC or SIEC-like entity in every region. Again whether they have done anything or not but as a matter of fact they have indicated that intent.

CHAIRMAN POWELL: Yes, I don't believe that the governors have sent all the letters in yet.

You may be correct. Certainly I know in the case of Colorado that they are intending to form one but I don't believe the Governor has a letter in yet.

MR. PICKERAL: They haven't formalized it but there's an intent across all 50 states. Actually I think Nevada was the last one that we knew about or

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that they've filed it.

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2 | CHAIRMAN POWELL: Ron.

PARTICIPANT: (Off microphone.)

CHAIRMAN POWELL: I'm just going to put it on a floppy. We can try your laptop, too, if you want to. It's the same as mine. We may have the same problem with your interface.

COMMISSIONER DEVINE: I'd like to ask a question. Does anybody have any ideas as to what might be a better way to ensure inclusivity in this process? What we don't want is a body indicating that it's their channels and they are in charge and not getting the input and responding to the input from the entities working within the region or within the state or however we want to look at it. Is there any better way to promote inclusivity than changing the name? We are certainly open to any of those things. We just don't want it to be a closed environment. We want to make sure that people who need to talk together are able to do that and able to share those parameters with each other.

CHAIRMAN POWELL: Okay, for those of you

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1	who have not seen it, this is the latest. What's
2	that?
3	PARTICIPANT: Still can't see it.
4	CHAIRMAN POWELL: Unfortunately this
5	doesn't display the whole table if we do it this way
6	but the frequencies are all listed along with their
7	applicable channels.
8	COMMISSIONER DEVINE: There is also the
9	VHF public host channels that have been designated at
10	00348 I believe. They are also indicated on there
11	with channel names. Do you want to just describe the
12	sequence, John?
13	CHAIRMAN POWELL: Yes, I want to point
14	out at cell number four here that we've added in the
15	table this proposed 3948 as an input channel so that
16	there is a pair that can be configured in a mobile
17	relay configuration and low band for fire. There was
18	one existing for law enforcement but not for fire.
19	What Steve just referenced there with the ?
20	COMMISSIONER DEVINE: Scroll over to the
21	naming convention with the sequential numbers.
22	CHAIRMAN POWELL: So as you'll see here

coming down, these numbers are sequential. There is no duplication of numbers throughout the entire span of interoperability channels. It goes up into the 90s now including all the bands other than the addition of the letter D afterwards to show whether you are operating through a mobile relay or direct on the output where you have a paired channel.

So if you say 16, there is only one interoperability channel 16 in the entire table of channels. That by definition would be this law channel, whatever the frequency is here. We have to slip back over to the side, 155340. We've included actually for example 18-155-475 which in the past had been called the National Law Enforcement Channel. We've included that in the table. A number of states have referred to the 154-280-265-295 as fire wide certainly across the western states. That way those have been renamed into this convention also.

COMMISSIONER DEVINE: The other issue is the 154-280-265 and 295 as well as the three interstitials also are provided at limitation 19 so if rebanding can be accommodated, there is actually

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some additional channels that can be utilized with 1 2 that limitation within the fire service as well. 3 narrow band moves forward, then those things become more of a potential. 4 5 CHAIRMAN POWELL: Within this document, 6 we have in the final one which comes to the Steering 7 Committee tomorrow a recommendation for four footnotes in the Table of Allocations for 8 interoperability channels. They will read as a 9 10 limitation for interoperability use only. 11 will be for interagency interoperability use. 12 three of them will say primary for law, fire and EMS. 13 Then one of them will be for all agency. But we are 14 not going to make them exclusive. It will be primary use by law, fire and EMS on some of the channels as 15 16 is the case today for the tables. 17 PARTICIPANT: If you could get me 18 electronic copy. 19 CHAIRMAN POWELL: Yes. So as you go down through this ? 20 21 COMMISSIONER DEVINE: John, make that

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150. Just go in there and type over it.

CHAIRMAN POWELL: Let's see how this works. This at least shows the frequencies and the use. Here we have the Federal channels which have been included. These are the Redbook channels. They are the same as you'll recall from the last meeting except that the letter "F" is added in front to show that they are Federal.

We did make a change and I'll mention one of the changes. This group right here in the 400 band and the table that we had last time, we incorrectly put a 1 in front of these instead of a 4 in the first character designating the band. That's been corrected.

COMMISSIONER DEVINE: Those are all indicated as FTACs with the exception of the calling channels listed in those Redbooks which are FCALLs.

CHAIRMAN POWELL: I was hoping that some of the Federal users would be here today. This first group and actually both of the Redbook pairs shows

NTIA law enforcement. I don't know if there's an intent because they are adjacent to Federally law enforcement channels to restrict those for law

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enforcement only. In which case, we should probably 1 2 change those to LAW instead of TAC. 3 I don't know what the Federal 4 Government's intent was on those. I think we prefer 5 to have them available for any agency to use but they are to use but they are adjacent to the Federal law 6 7 enforcement channels. COMMISSIONER DEVINE: The Redbook 8 9 channels were divided into two groups, Incident 10 Response and Law Enforcement. There is VHF and UHF 11 We're not really exactly sure what they in each. used for them internally or how that works. 12 13 MR. EIERMAN: David Eierman, Motorola. 14 think law enforcement is general use for all law 15 enforcement. They don't normally have fire and EMS 16 except for certain like DOD base operations or 17 something. To them, it's all general tactical 18 channels. 19 COMMISSIONER DEVINE: Whether they 20 differentiate or not, if they don't, we probably 21 don't need to either.

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CHAIRMAN POWELL: We'll attempt to

clarify that if some of the their members show up later today. That actually is probably about the only remaining issue in this table. If we go through— this is just a general listing of channels. We have added the notations for secondary trunks. If I can get way over on the side, I'm going to try to pick some of the other notes here. These are all split down into 700 channels.

That's all band. The mandatory channels, this is the group. It would actually take 16 channels on each radio for interoperability because it would include the talkaround as well as the repeater side of the channels. Those would be the mandatory channels on all radios. It's the two calling channels and two of the general use channels out of each of the 700 splits. Again that's our action we took in prior meetings but they are now indicated in this document. Emil.

MR. VOGEL: Emil Vogel. John, are you saying these are mandatory?

CHAIRMAN POWELL: Absolutely. That was the decision we made. These would be in every

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subscriber radio.

MR. VOGEL: In 821, we left it up to the agency. They had to be capable of programming it there, but they didn't require them to put it in the radio in operation. I'm thinking of places like New York City where you have 40,000 cops and 12,000 to 15,000 firemen and you're going to put 16 interop channels in every one. Am I reading you correctly?

CHAIRMAN POWELL: Yes, you are and that's a decision this Subcommittee made several meetings ago when we identified the channels.

MR. VOGEL: That's the 700.

CHAIRMAN POWELL: 700.

MR. VOGEL: Only.

CHAIRMAN POWELL: Only, right. The idea there was that wherever any radio showed up anywhere in the country there would at least be the two calling channels and the four working channels available assuming the entire band was useable there. Six, three in each site. Where did our pretty picture here go to?

COMMISSIONER DEVINE: You have to go

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down.

CHAIRMAN POWELL: Here we go. This is the wide band layout. This shows the reserve spectrum as well as the wide band interoperability channels and the A, B and C layout and the different ways those could be configured between 100 and 150 kilohertz allocation. It also shows the four nationwide common interoperability channels which we decided at the last meeting should be 50 kilohertz channels. I think that's pretty much the table.

COMMISSIONER DEVINE: We'll have this available as well once we determine the NTIA labeling and how that should be labeled. This document will also then be available.

CHAIRMAN POWELL: Any questions on that or comments? Suggested changes? One of the suggestions was with representatives from a number of manufacturers in the room and we've actually included it in here and want to discuss this morning is a requirement and we need to pick a time.

We were suggesting after five years from publication that the radio programming software would

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no longer allow any different name to be entered into a channel display than the one that's approved on the interoperability channels. The manufacturers would be required within their radio programming software to not allow any channel nomenclature other than what is approved on the interoperability channels to be inserted into a radio on those channels.

In other words, if that channel was programmed into the radio, the standard channel nomenclature would automatically be loaded after five years. That would give agencies a five year transition period on all bands to move to the new designations.

COMMISSIONER BUCHANAN: John, that brings up a good point because I'm just thinking about the 821 ITAC and ICAL channels. I know in my own system in the county we have some low end radios that we've put the mutual aid into them but they don't even have a display that could display any of this along with we probably just in the last few years got everything converted over to ICAL and now it changes again. So what is the phase in? How did you approach that as

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1	far as existing radios that are already programmed?
2	Is it going to be a crash effort for everybody to go
3	out and change them or can they be changed as they're
4	updated?
5	CHAIRMAN POWELL: That was why we
6	proposed this change over allowing five years. Is
7	that enough time?
8	COMMISSIONER BUCHANAN: I'm not sure.
9	I'm thinking of how long it takes and what is the
10	penalty if you miss a radio out there? When you have
11	12,000 radios, it's sometimes very hard to make sure
12	they'll upgraded.
13	PARTICIPANT: But even if you have a
14	display, there is no requirement.
15	CHAIRMAN POWELL: Right, because it's
16	only if they are display radios.
17	COMMISSIONER BUCHANAN: And I'm not
18	disputing that it should be done. I'm just wondering
19	on the timeframe if maybe five years isn't enough.
20	CHAIRMAN POWELL: We need to pick a time
21	and what do people think is appropriate?
22	COMMISSIONER DEVINE: Especially when

1	we're talking about all bands. Maybe we need to be a
2	little more open on the back end of that.
3	CHAIRMAN POWELL: Tom Sorley, you have a
4	big system. Dave has a big system. We say that but
5	the agency that has only two radios might be the
6	biggest pain because until they break, they won't see
7	the shot.
8	MR. WILHELM: John, I'm not sure I
9	understand your comment. The way you stated it you
10	said that the manufacturers must use the standard
11	nomenclature. Now you seem to be talking about
12	requiring the agencies to have their radios display
13	that standard nomenclature.
14	CHAIRMAN POWELL: That would be the
15	effect because when they went to touch a radio after
16	whatever that period is it's going to load the
17	standard nomenclature in.
18	MR. WILHELM: But the manufacturer does
19	it.
20	CHAIRMAN POWELL: No, what would happen
21	is that one user after whatever period we set plugs a
22	radio in to program it, it's going to automatically

1	change those to the standard format. That is the
2	radio programming software will.
3	AUDIENCE MEMBER: Only if the user has
4	updated the software.
5	CHAIRMAN POWELL: That's true.
6	MR. WILHELM: But you would impose this
7	requirement on users and manufacturers.
8	CHAIRMAN POWELL: The intent was to
9	impose it on manufacturers. I think it would be
10	difficult to apply to users.
11	MR. WILHELM: But you say whenever
12	somebody touches a radio to reprogram it they must
13	program it with ?-
14	CHAIRMAN POWELL: The software to program
15	in a new standard, the new nomenclature.
16	MR. WILHELM: But the manufacturer
17	doesn't do that programming.
18	CHAIRMAN POWELL: No, the user does but
19	the manufacturer software does not allow any other
20	nomenclature to go in other than the standard on
21	those channels after whatever period of time that is.
22	So in other words, it's not going to cause any

change from the users perspective during whatever that period is. But after that time, it will update his radio if he has those channels on the radio which is something of the radio software.

MR. WILHELM: Maybe I don't understand all I know about that. Why don't we talk off-line.

CHAIRMAN POWELL: Tom.

MR. SORLEY: Tom Sorely, Orange County, Florida. To answer your question, we reprogram typically at least once every five years. Most of the time it's sooner than that. We have to keep our software updated. We get it updated at least once a year because the radios we get back from repair aren't able to be programmed if our software is not updated.

I would say whatever timeframe that you get the manufacturers to comply with this you're going to have to add four or maybe five years on top of that for just the process to take place of the locals touching every radio. Like you, I have thousands of radios on my system.

Being in the middle of doing that right

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now, I don't really want to do any time soon. But yes, once that's mandated, for the most part most people update their software quite regularly because they won't be able to touch the radios and program them once they come back from the factory. I hope that answers your question.

CHAIRMAN POWELL: So five years would be a good time for you?

MR. SORLEY: Yes, I think that would be a valid timeframe. I can't imagine anybody going longer than that without having to reprogram. I mean somebody else is going to reprogram and force you to do it in that length of time.

COMMISSIONER BUCHANAN: Let me make sure

I have it straight because we've talked two different
things here. Five years for the manufacturer to come
up with the software and then an additional five
years after that to actually to say they have to put
it in the radios.

MR. SORLEY: What I'm saying is whatever time the software has that capability, you have to tack on an additional four to five years on top of

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1	that for all the radios to have been cycled through
2	and be touched.
3	CHAIRMAN POWELL: That wasn't our intent
4	though in our discussion on this. The intent is that
5	the manufacturers could make that change at any
6	point.
7	MR. SORLEY: I don't know what timeframe
8	you're going to give them.
9	CHAIRMAN POWELL: The point is that after
10	five years from whatever date it is that the radio
11	programming software will only allow that channel
12	nomenclature to be used and nothing else to be put in
13	for that frequency.
14	MR. SORLEY: I'm saying after that point
15	a reasonable expectation is that it will take four or
16	five years of process for all the radios in the field
17	to be at the point you inevitably want everything to
18	be there. Even though your software is compliant
19	there's a process.
20	COMMISSIONER DEVINE: It's going to take
21	ten years.
22	MR. SORLEY: Well, however long you give

the manufacturers. If you give the manufacturers two years, whatever you do it's going to take five years after that point for all the radios in the field to effectively have that in them in my opinion.

COMMISSIONER BUCHANAN: I would guess from listening to this that really if you just put the mandate on the manufacturers to come out in whatever timeframe, say five years, with the software, then the radios are going to take care of themselves after that. It's not going to be immediate but they are going to have to. So you wouldn't have to make two different mandates. You would just have the one.

CHAIRMAN POWELL: So, John or Ernie,
what's a reasonable time for manufacturers if we were
to ask that to happen? I know I've asked you all
before if it's possible to do this and everyone said
"Yes, it is." It's a software issue. What's a
reasonable time to ask that to happen? In two years?
Three years? Five years?

MR. EIERMAN: David Eierman, Motorola. I think five years is sufficient. It can probably be

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1	done sooner. I think we have a concern not RSS or
2	radio software on new versions of radios going
3	forward. We wouldn't have to go back and redo radio
4	software on old radios or cancelled models or
5	whatever else.
6	We do have some concern about making it
7	in every radio because besides not wanting to go back
8	and make modifications to old radios, we don't want
9	to go back and have to modify old software. We have
10	enough.
11	COMMISSIONER BUCHANAN: Would it be
12	reasonable to tie it to current production radios?
13	MR. EIERMAN: That's no problem with
14	that.
15	COMMISSIONER BUCHANAN: I think that's
16	probably the best it's going to get.
17	CHAIRMAN POWELL: Okay. Current
18	production radios.
19	MR. LINK: Kenneth Link, MTA Police
20	Transit in New York City. I was going to go along
21	the gentleman from Motorola in the same way. First
22	comment, I feel the five years is an adequate time

period for the manufacturer. Logistically as well as the gentleman from Orange County, we have the same challenges as they do. But we do have some older fleet as well as everybody else might as well and the timeframe to do that and the software differences and clashes can be an issue. I can definitely agree with the gentleman from Motorola on that.

CHAIRMAN POWELL: The current production radio.

MR. LINK: That's correct.

CHAIRMAN POWELL: Ernie.

MR. HOFMEISTER: Ernie Hofmeister, M/ACOM Wireless. I guess we would agree with what David
has said about Motorola. Five years sounds
reasonable. It's not quite clear to me yet. We
would have a product that goes with those radios, the
radio software that programs them that would have
that capability in it. As David said or others said,
for existing customers they don't always buy the
latest product that we have for programming radios so
somehow you have to work a provision for that in.

I guess the other thing that bothers me a

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little bit is the word that's used "only." The software "only" allows that to be programmed in. I'm sure people take our software and other software users and others and may create their own modifications, hack into that software.

So I'm only concerned about liability coming back to the manufacturer for someone in the field modifying those things and lo and behold somebody goes to an emergency situation and they turn that radio on and that's the wrong channel. I'm sure our attorneys would want to study that situation I guess.

CHAIRMAN POWELL: We'd probably have to word that very carefully to say "Manufacturer-delivered software."

MR. EIERMAN: David Eierman again. On clarifying the existing radio software, a lot of it you can go in and manually put those names in there. There's nothing preventing people from manually doing it today. It's just if you want to automatically say "This is the name" that's a software mod to the thing. We don't like to go back.

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We like to back and fix bugs but no more modifications than necessary to two or three generational radio softwares though.

COMMISSIONER DEVINE: What we're looking for is the opportunity to have the inducer plug the frequency in and have the radio tell it what that frequency's name is. However that happens voluntarily or not, it's fine.

MR. SORLEY: Tom Sorley again from Orange County. I disagree with tying it to new radio models. If you are going to do a new version release of a software, you should be able to protect that field and prefill it. I agree that you can't mandate it back if you are not maintaining this version of software anymore. But if you are going to release a new version of software, it's not that much more difficult to put a name in and protect that field.

So for me, I believe it should be tied to the software version, not the radio version. If they are going to update the software, then every new release from this date forward ought to have this feature in it.

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CHAIRMAN POWELL: John.

MR. OBLAK: John Oblak from E.F. Johnson Company. We also agree that the five year is certainly an adequate time. We would agree to any current software, in other words, software that's currently in maintenance. A concern we do have is obviously we provide radios not only to customers in the United States but worldwide as well. Maintaining multiple versions such as international versions versus U.S. versions may be fairly difficult when it comes to some of the existing frequency bands.

We certainly agree that the 700 megahertz band as a unique U.S. band poses no problem. I'm a little concerned about Legacy products and other frequency bands that may be offered for international versions.

MR. O'HARA: Sean O'Hara, Syracuse

Research Corporation. I think we should all make a

mental note that a lot of the work we are doing now

in the software defined radios is a way to bridge the

interoperability gap and really use all these

channels. We're creating another thing that we need

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to keep track of as a requirement for electronic type 1 2 acceptance of the software as we are talking about 3 these radios and their implementation right now. 4 CHAIRMAN POWELL: Okay. We just got a 5 note from our Federal users that they clearly intend for those UHF and VHF Federal channels to be law 6 7 enforcement. 8 COMMISSIONER DEVINE: And they do 9 differentiate. 10 CHAIRMAN POWELL: This is the general use 11 which is the second block so we will make a change in that table. Those will show LAW instead of TAC on 12 13 those channels. 14 COMMISSIONER DEVINE: Right, incident 15 response will still be on that. 16 COMMISSIONER BUCHANAN: Well, I think we 17 need to be real careful then how that's worded so 18 that the manufacturers can take care of those concerns which are (1) that they shouldn't be liable 19 20 if somebody hacks their software and (2) where it's 21 used internationally the same channel they should be

allowed to have an override in there for their

international customers and (3) it has to be which I would term current production radios and software.

They shouldn't be made to go back and change software that is out for radios that are out of production just to make this an additional feature. If we got those points in there, I could live with that.

CHAIRMAN POWELL: Okay. Any other comments from the floor? Anyone opposed doing this? It looks like that is unanimous. Dave, I think you're up for your issues there or have they been covered?

as the wide band standards, it's pretty much done with from this Committee's perspective. In fact since we went out of order and the Technical Subcommittee met first, it was unanimous consensus to recommend the TIA standards. There was a letter handed out on that. I think we're good there.

I guess really the only thing that's still up in the air on those standards is TIA is still trying to develop a text messaging application standard. It's obviously not done and there are some

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issues there. So I guess it's just that we support that effort that it should be incorporated when and if the TIA can get that standard developed.

You had the wide band loading tool. I'm not sure what you wanted to address on that with Sean.

CHAIRMAN POWELL: I just wanted really to confirm with Sean and to let people know that it is completed. There were a number of fields that you talked about such as locking so that people couldn't change those at the latest version. Sean, you can just give us a status report on that. Then that is going to be included with the Regional Planning Guidebooks on the software version.

MR. O'HARA: Sean O'Hara, Syracuse

Research Corporation. Yes, I had basically locked

certain fields that shouldn't be changed, made it

look a little better. I also put a button on there

that resets all the values to default values in case

you put some values in there and you're not sure what

reasonable values are.

That is on the NPSTC website right now I

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noticed. It's really easy to use but you can go there and you can look and play with it. I would recommend that rather than running it directly from the site you download it and run it. It looks a little better and it seems like it's less buggy if you download it and run it on your computer as opposed to trying to run it through the web translator.

COMMISSIONER DEVINE: Sean, I know there was discussion previously about a worksheet that's going to be included in the Regional Planning Guidebook or some kind of instruction method in order to explain to some of the RPCs exactly what conclusions they are getting here and just some of the criteria that's being established and what it is they are looking for when they make these inquiries into these cells. I think if we just put it out without some explanation, I don't think it's going to get used properly.

MR. O'HARA: It is out. What I will do is I'll work with the members of this Committee or the Implementation Committee or whoever. We can come

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up with a brief one-pager and submit it through dipsticking and get it on the site.

COMMISSIONER DEVINE: I think a single sheet would do wonders for the people who are going to end up working with this.

most of that should be taken up by the Implementation Subcommittee. Obviously you need to look at it somewhat on loading for the interoperability channels but they are not day-to-day where you need to figure out a loading on. I think it's just something we should refer over to their committee. Other than that, I don't think there's anything else unless someone has something on the wideband interoperability standards.

I guess there is one other item to clarify and make certain on this that the capability for the wideband standard. We're recommending unless it wants to be changed by the group here that the capability for that should be mandated into the data radios. My understanding is that I've seen something from Motorola indicating that if a different

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manufacturer is putting this in for the interoperability that they would license it at no cost.

I think this is very much the same as on the voice side that you need to have this in each of the radio modems that are going to be out there for the wideband general use channels. There you would have the interoperability in it. Is there any disagreement to that.

MR. SMITH: I'm Doug Smith from Data
Radio. I would just like to point out to the
Committee that I think this additional constraint to
all equipment I don't really buys any additional
inducer capability. In fact, I think it complicates
the implementation of the radio. Obviously it's
going to make it more complex. It's going to add to
the cost. It's going to delay the introduction of
equipment into the community at large.

Most important, what I'm worried about is that it's going to stymie the introduction of new technologies and potentially innovative use of these channels. If every data radio must operate on the

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interoperable channels, then things such as have been pointed out like in the some of the e-mails where it might be possible to use surveillance devices or whatever, it's not going to be really practical to include all the requirements of building an interoperable radio in those kind of devices. I think the Committee really need to look at that before they mandate that every wideband radio needs to operate on the interoperability channels.

COMMISSIONER BUCHANAN: Well, what would you propose because our big concern is users that this capability is there that let's say my agency picks your brand and agency X next door to me picks brand Y? What assurance do we have that since you don't want to install it that we're going to be able to talk to each other or have that capability inherit in the modem?

MR. SMITH: You won't. You have to go in that with your heads up.

COMMISSIONER BUCHANAN: That's the issues we've had with voice. That's what got us down the road to really ask for the standard when it came to

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digital modulation.

MR. SMITH: Absolutely.

COMMISSIONER BUCHANAN: The users feel that the capability needs to be there. It shouldn't be that a less sophisticated agency doesn't realize that they bought a unit that can't do that until they get out and they are ready to start doing some interoperability.

MR. SMITH: True, but what you need to do is take one step back and rise one level up. For narrow band, voice and data radios, it's not an issue because when we arrive at a crisis event and we switch to an interoperable communication capability, we can still exchange information primarily because we all speak the same language.

This is not the case when we talk about data devices. Unfortunately it wasn't in our mandate and we didn't look at developing or trying to evolve any standards for applications. Now text messaging is a step in the right direction but we have a long way to go before you'll be able to arrive at a crisis event and you and I will actually be able to exchange

computer data.

COMMISSIONER BUCHANAN: Well, I agree with that but isn't it a step backwards if you don't have the basic hardware standard in the radio modems? If it's not there, then you can't even develop any of the rest of the applications. So aren't you arguing against your own position here?

MR. SMITH: No, I'm not objecting to having a standard for operating on the interoperable channels. What I'm trying to point out to the Committee, I think it puts a damper on the general use channels. Surely users should have the opportunity to determine what portion of their capability needs to have an interoperable capability and what portion of the equipment that they deploy doesn't need to have that.

CHAIRMAN POWELL: That's been a longstanding problem and that we arrive at the same level of meeting interoperability for the first time. The capability isn't there so we don't have it.

Certainly TIA is working on a text messaging standard. John, I don't know if you have any idea

how long before that might be out.

I know there is some real issues with even the protocols. JABBER is being looked at now. It certainly is under development. I think moving along TIA is trying to move it pretty quickly so it will be here. I agree with Dave that with text messaging being the first and a major application that's coming if we don't have the capability in the modems out the door, then no application is ever going to be able to work in an interoperability mode which is why we took the position that we did with data on the Swiss B channels. Glen.

CHAIRMAN NASH: Glen Nash in this case representing the State of California. I would like to report to this Committee that a couple of weeks ago I was invited to attend a meeting hosted by the National Institute of Science and Technology ("NIST"). Several other people in the room were at that same meeting.

NIST has begun an effort to take a look at interoperability and standards as an issue. A significant portion of that day and a half meeting

dealt with issues of application interoperability in the public safety environment in looking at what would it take to standardize some of the applications, what would it take to enable the exchange of information all the way through the law enforcement process from field operations right through the courts and into the corrections arena.

Yes, we are in a very early stage of interoperability in the data world. It is something though that is being worked on. People are starting to look at it as a real issue that needs to be addressed. I think from a technology standpoint it is very important that the technology be able to support the applications as the applications get developed. If the two don't come together, we can never obtain it.

COMMISSIONER BUCHANAN: Yes, I think that's my concern with the position of data radio.

If the radios aren't capable of doing the standard, then you come down the road three or four years from now and you're ready to implement those applications and the agencies won't be able to do it. I think

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we've only done half a job if we don't also ask that it's mandated that the radios be capable of it.

In this day and age of integrated circuits and flexible radios to the point where we're getting software to find radios, it's frankly just a software/hardware issue that yes, it's going to add some complexity but it's certainly not that much complexity to a radio. Again my own feeling is that we should do it. I don't know what the consensus beyond data radio for the rest of the group here but we need to figure that out also.

MR. WILHELM: David, may I make a point?

In Docket 9686, the Rules were drafted so that

wideband data radios did not have to have that

capability and the considerations discussed at the

time were that there would not be standardization in

either applications or terminal equipment. So if you

make this recommendation, I think you should address

those two issues.

At the time, the Commission thought that if there's a video camera on one end and a laptop on the other, it doesn't matter whether the RF portion

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is compatible. The camera can't talk to the laptop or more accurately the laptop can't talk to the camera. That's a better example.

COMMISSIONER BUCHANAN: Right, but I think we're trying to address some of those issues. I know NPSTC is one of the things we looked at. In fact, we have it in IP addressing and all that.

We've referred back and I think NPSTC has taken that up. We're going forward as a public safety community to address those application issues.

I just get real worried. Why do we even go to the bother of having a standard on the interoperability channels if no one is going to use the standard or the radios aren't going to be capable of operating on them with the standard? To me that just doesn't make an sense. I realize there's a whole lot of work to do on standardized applications but I think it's clear that we're starting that work. Go ahead, Glen.

CHAIRMAN NASH: Glen Nash again.

Michael, I think, in partial answer to your question there, if the radio was designed so that it was an

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integral part of the camera or an integral part of the computer, maybe I could agree with you. But to the extent that the radio is designed that it has an RS232 port that today I hook up to a camera and tomorrow I hook up to a computer and next week I hook up to a fax machine, therein becomes the problem.

That radio is not a single use device.

It is being designed for multiple uses. It might be sold for a single use but next week when my needs change, I start using it for something else. We need that ability. The radio needs to operate in a standardized form so that we can use it for multiple purposes as our usage and the demand changes.

MR. WILHELM: Glen, please understand that I'm not disagreeing with your recommendation.

All I'm saying is that when you make the recommendation you should acknowledge that the Rules do not now permit it, that it was once considered for the reasons that I mentioned?

CHAIRMAN NASH: And I understand that. I was just addressing the question. They are not being designed as single use devices.

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COMMISSIONER BUCHANAN: But I think what we need to get to is I'm sure data radios - I doubt if we've changed our mind - but we need to know what the consensus of the group is. Go ahead, Steve.

COMMISSIONER DEVINE: Just one comment.

I was at the NIST seminar with Glen and there's no double there's going to be obstacles to those future applications. However I don't think the compatibility and the lack of standardization of the equipment that we're going to use for some of those applications or at least are going to be allowed in those applications should be one of them. While it may seem to be something that isn't practical now, I think it will provide dividends in the long run.

MR. SORLEY: I'm Tom Sorely from Orange County. I think it would be a foolhardy thing to do to enter into a whole new area of spectrum and not have standards in the radios. We're going back to square one. That's ridiculous.

We definitely need standards because we don't know what the use of this device is going to be three years from now or five years from now the way

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technology is changing. We have to have it on a standardized platform. Any of us who have been struggling with these different platform that don't intercommunicate and don't allow us flexibility that we need to complete our mission know that. We have to have a standardized platform. Whatever it is, it has to be standardized.

COMMISSIONER BUCHANAN: Are there any other comments?

MR. KEARNS: Kevin Kearns with King

County, Washington. I guess I would speak in support
of what Glen said specifically with consideration of
embedded devices that are really intended for one use
that don't lend themselves to an interoperable kind
of a solution if they are deployed so to speak as a
kit, deployed as a system, used that way and aren't
intended to operate that way, I think to keep the
cost of the devices down where it's embedded like
that. But I absolutely also agree with the point
that if it's a generic radio modem, it needs to
include all those interoperable capabilities and
standards so that regardless of how it might get

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1	applied over its service life, that exists in the
2	device.
3	COMMISSIONER BUCHANAN: I'm going to
4	throw this out and then we can see if there's a
5	consensus on it.
6	(1) The radio should be normally capable
7	of operating on the interoperability channels under
8	the TIA standards that we're recommending unless the
9	radio modem is an integral part of another device and
10	cannot be separated from that device.
11	(2) I think we can note that there are
12	some issues of applications. Just because we adopt
13	these standards, you cannot automatically speak but
14	we are working on those issues separate from the NCC
15	primarily through the NPSTC group. I think we could
16	put that into the recommendation. I think we need to
17	acknowledge that data radio disagrees with this. Did
18	I cover everything?
19	CHAIRMAN POWELL: Just on embedded
20	device, we probably should say "a non-messaging"
21	embedded device.

COMMISSIONER BUCHANAN: All right.

22

"Non-

1	messaging".
2	CHAIRMAN POWELL: For example, then in
3	parenthesis, put (Video) and then if there are other
4	examples we wanted to include. Sean.
5	MR. O'HARA: Sean O'Hara, Circuits
6	Research Corporation. I think along the same lines.
7	If this is embedded device maybe even if it's a text
8	device without a text standard right now, it maybe
9	should be exempt from that standard but maybe you
10	should not allow that device to operate on the
11	interoperability channels either.
12	CHAIRMAN POWELL: That's a good point.
13	COMMISSIONER BUCHANAN: I agree.
14	CHAIRMAN POWELL: I think you're going to
15	want to put video on the interoperability at least
16	for fire.
17	COMMISSIONER BUCHANAN: Well, yes but you
18	don't want to do it in a non-standard way.
19	CHAIRMAN POWELL: That's a good point.
20	That point is then if you are operating a device that
21	is not using a standard, you don't have to have the
22	standard built into it but you're also prohibited

from using it then on an interoperability channel.

For example, a video link from an aerial platform for a fire could only be used on the interoperability channels if it was using the interoperability standard in its communications link. Ernie.

MR. HOFMEISTER: Ernie Hofmeister, MACOM.

A comment from the point of view of a manufacturer,
we've been part of the process and supportive of the
process. I have to say as a manufacturer including a
mandatory interoperability mode in a radio is a
burden to the designer. To design the radio, it
would end up being some kind of a cost burden as
well.

We've been a little disappointed that we haven't made more progress as a group on these applications. We've talked about that for awhile.

We are certainly willing to support that sort of thing. We would like to be convinced that the users absolutely believe that they would need that mode and will use that mode and it's critical to their mission. If it's something that's required in the radios but never gets used in the future, we think

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that would be an undue burden.

I recognize you can't predict all these things in the future and you're talking about building baseline capability. I guess the point would be that we'd just like to make sure or be convinced that the users are convinced that they need that mode and will use that mode.

MR. McEWEN: I'm Harlin McEwen representing the International Association of the Chiefs of Police and National Sheriffs and other law enforcement executive organizations such as the Major City Chiefs and so on.

COMMISSIONER DEVINE: And anybody else he can find out there.

MR. McEWEN: And anybody else who would let me speak for them. In response to Ernie's comment, I'm fully aware of the concerns that he raises. In talking with police chiefs and sheriffs and others around the country about all of this, first of all, it's a highly technical issue that most of them don't understand very well.

As far as operational issues, it's clear

that what they do want to do is make sure that we look to the future and how technology is going to offer us new and better products to be able to do things that we aren't doing today. To me, this is the opportunity to do that.

I don't know that anybody in this room can adequately answer the question that Ernie poses about whether we're going to use it. We hope we're going to and we think we're going to. I think that's the general consensus among most of the public safety people that I've talked to. The reason that we're recommending is because of our feeling that it is going to be the future way to do business. There is no crystal ball but in answer to his point, the best that we can see is that this is the right thing to do.

COMMISSIONER BUCHANAN: Yes, I can echo that to some extent from the talks that I've had with my own sheriffs, people and police chiefs in our county. It's something that they would like to do obviously. As Harlin said, they don't understand the technology but they do understand that if a deputy is

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out there or a police officer, they not only need voice communications but they need to message back and forth to each other occasionally because they don't operate anymore in a vacuum. You get adjacent agencies and they have to work together now. It's another tool that would allow that. From that standpoint, that's why I support it.

MR. VOGEL: Emil Vogel. Dave, an amendment or modification you were making if I understood what you said, you're saying the standard would not be required on non-interop channels. Do you then need to put the amendment in because really the standard you are recommending is only for the interop channels? I was just listening to what I think you read and I know you've been writing and trying to maintain the meeting. Read back what you wrote.

COMMISSIONER BUCHANAN: Well, what I have is incomplete notes here.

MR. VOGEL: And that may have been what I picked up but if you're suggesting that on the non-interop -?

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1	COMMISSIONER BUCHANAN: What I'm
2	suggesting is that normally any radio modem for
3	wideband channels that is capable of the general use
4	should also be capable of operating on the
5	interoperability channels under the TIA standard of
6	50 kilohertz and with the exception that a unit for
7	embedded use -?
8	MR. VOGEL: ?- would operate on the
9	general use channels.
10	COMMISSIONER BUCHANAN: ?- operating on
11	the general use channels if it's an embedded device
12	it wouldn't need to and it would also not have the
13	capability to operate on the interop channels. So it
14	would just be a standalone dedicated and of only use
15	for that and you wouldn't change the application that
16	it's used for.
17	MR. VOGEL: Right and therefore the
18	standard would not come into play.
19	COMMISSIONER BUCHANAN: Would not come
20	into play, right.
21	MR. VOGEL: That's why I said "Do you
22	need to make that if you're going to put it on the" -

1	_
2	COMMISSIONER BUCHANAN: Well, I think you
3	need to differentiate that because if we're asking
4	the FCC to put something in the Rules, then we have
5	to be clear what they are putting in there.
6	MR. VOGEL: And where they are putting
7	it? Where it's applied?
8	COMMISSIONER BUCHANAN: Yes, where it's
9	applied. That's the reason.
10	CHAIRMAN POWELL: Let's see how close we
11	are to consensus.
12	COMMISSIONER BUCHANAN: Why don't you ask
13	for just a show of hands or something?
14	CHAIRMAN POWELL: Beyond data radio, do
15	we have any other disagreements with moving forward
16	with the proposal as Dave just reiterated it unless
17	data radio has changed our minds? Ernie, was yours
18	in opposition or just a concern?
19	MR. HOFMEISTER: Just a concern. I
20	wanted to reaffirm that the users believe that this

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CHAIRMAN POWELL: I think Harlin spoke

is needed and will be used.

21

for the law enforcement community. I don't know if we have any others here to speak from our communities.

MR. LINK: Ken Link, MTA Transit Police,
New York City. The MTA encompasses a 5,000 square
mile area centering on New York City as well as the
outlying areas. I know as the police department
radio engineer, I offer any tool to the officers that
will be of benefit especially this. We have several
hundred terminals and the radio cars. If I can give
them this one little bit of interoperability down the
road, I'm sure at our border areas and state lines
this tool will be beneficial for officer safety and
non-officer safety as well. So we fully support it
from our feelings as well.

CHAIRMAN POWELL: Well to the degree that we can arrive at consensus, I guess we have that, noting that we have one company in opposition and we will so note that. Any other issues in wideband interoperability? Any other issues from the floor on wideband interoperability?

Agenda Item No. 7 under old business and

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really what's left now on the published agenda is just some reports. You'll recall probably two years or more ago that this Committee with NPSTC began discussing an IP database for data and voice radios that were using IP as one of their protocols. NPSTC agreed to undertake that.

Within the last six months, we received funding from NIJ to carry that further. We're now looking beyond just an IP database but also at the whole issue of authentication because we have some systems going in around the country that are very wide area.

One of them right here in the D.C. metro area called CAPWIN. It's looking at interfacing a number of different agencies data terminals together. Authentication is a big issue for them. Likewise in Southern California, we have a big regional system called ARGUS in the San Diego area that's being confronted with the same issues.

So we have received funding from the Justice Department to do an investigation, a White Paper, and are now looking at potentially some test

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beds and feasibility studies in this area probably moving towards regional databases that could be interconnected nationally to support roaming of public safety units around the country including as Steve pointed out in a meeting yesterday of "What happens when a guy from New Hampshire happens to be driving down the road and sees a fire on the mountain with some firefighters who are overrun or needing help and he's five states from home. How does his PDA interface into their system and at what level?" So we are really talking about this from full roaming to the person that just happens in the middle of an incident and needs communications.

Fortunately some of the new technologies and protocols being developed, particularly IP 6 provides us with a lot of capabilities that we've never had before. We are looking at that entire breadth.

I'll also comment that Project Mesa at its last meeting in Ottawa began looking at some of these same issues. So we are moving in the direction to get something that would be a major benefit. It's

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1	not going to be easy if you look at the
2	authentication meaning, roaming access potentially
3	into controlled databases. So it's a major
4	undertaking that is underway.
5	COMMISSIONER BUCHANAN: What's the status
6	on getting the PS.gov done?
7	CHAIRMAN POWELL: Dave Funk, where do we
8	stand on the PS.gov demand name at this point?
9	MR. FUNK: (Off the microphone.)
LO	MR. WILHELM: David, excuse me. Would
L1	you stand to the microphone to make your comments?
L2	As usual, we're having this meeting transcribed so if
L3	you do have a comment and you would like to see it in
L4	print, please use the microphone.
L5	MR. FUNK: Certainly. I do not have that
L6	information, John. That's in your Committee now for
L7	the NPSTC working group that I don't have. That was
L8	all turned over to your group.
L9	CHAIRMAN POWELL: I thought that we had
20	pushed forward the request to Justice.
21	MR. FUNK: I took as far as to give you
22	the availability and that's in your group at this

point. I don't have anything else to offer.

CHAIRMAN POWELL: Okay. New Business.

Steve?

released the 4.9 Proceeding. Actually it was published in the <u>Federal Register</u> June 30th. There are some parameters and such that the actual year agenda indicates interoperability and standards but there are some issues pending that the NPSTC has created a 4.9 gigahertz task force that's going to hopefully provide some support to the regional planning committees at 700 that were empowered with facilitating this. The licensing is apparently 30 days after the publishing in the <u>Federal Register</u>.

Jurisdictional licenses will be eligible on July 30th.

There is apparently going to need to be some guidelines issued by the Commission to indicate to users exactly how to go about applying for those licenses. There was also language in the proceeding indicating that the 700 megahertz RPC should convene an initial planning meeting within six months and should also have a plan.

A regional plan should be filed within one year of published in the <u>Federal Register</u>. The Rules don't indicate that specific language but it was indicated in the proceedings. Therefore there is still some clarification there that needs to be addressed. I can tell you that we had a 700 meeting back home and convened 4.9 after the 700 meeting was adjourned.

There was quite a bit of question with regard to the licensing and the jurisdictional licensing process and exactly that would be undertaken. The concept that we had but we were just at our first meeting was possible that licenses would be issued before real standard or any real acknowledgment of parties using the spectrum was responded to with some questions. I'm sure there will be questions in all of your regions most likely. The way that it reads now is licenses will be proceeding as of January 30th or sometime near that point.

Like I said, NPSTC has established a task force that is going to try to develop some

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1	requirements and some standards to ensure that people
2	in their communities can communicate with each other
3	as well as support the regional planning committees
4	in some of these requirements, in particular, the
5	sixth month requirement. Perhaps maybe there needs
6	to be some awareness that needs to be brought to the
7	RPC level as well. NPSTC is going to work with that
8	as well as the 12 month plan. Bob.
9	MR. SEIDEL: Bob Seidel from MACOM. You
10	made an error there. You said "The licenses would be
11	available January 30 th ."
12	COMMISSIONER DEVINE: I'm sorry. July
13	30 th .
14	MR. SEIDEL: Two weeks from now or a week
15	and a half from now.
16	COMMISSIONER DEVINE: Right, thank you,
17	Bob. Any other comments? Questions on that? The
18	4.9 task force through NPSTC is going to support the
19	RPCs in exactly how we're going to go about that
20	which is before us.
21	COMMISSIONER BUCHANAN: I assume included
22	in that you're going to give some recommendations on

interoperability in this band.

CHAIRMAN POWELL: Actually we're going to go beyond that. I'll go ahead and talk about that NPSTC is going to be filing a Petition for Reconsideration on 4.9 specially discussing the masks which we believe are much too tight to permit off-the-shelf equipment to be migrated from adjacent bands. The manufacturers of the chip sets have already told us that very clearly. We'll probably be asking for the DRSC type masks that are in place for ITS up at 5.9.

We're also going to be asking that a standard be identified for interoperability. The problem with jurisdictional licenses is that you could potentially have a dozen or more agencies overlapping. Unless there is a standard, not only will they not be able to talk to each other but they could all try to talk at once to make the band completely unusable because of incompatibilities. So we're going to bring that back. That's an issue that NPSTC raised in its original filing and we're going to bring it back to the Commission again.

and I believe we mentioned it at the last NCC meeting when we talk about interoperability in 4.9 in some of these applications it's going to be a different interoperability than what we are familiar with.

There's going to be more infrastructure sharing. You could have agencies using hardware simultaneously while not really interoperating with each other, just utilizing the spectrum and some common hardware.

In addition to that, the wire line access from some of these sites whether it be fiber along the roadside or whatever medium they are using probably I would imagine in many instances is going to be shared. Between the users, there's going to have to be the wire line access back to the networks in order for these overlapping agencies.

You could find a piece of dirt where there are 10 or 12 different agencies wanting broadband access on it. That's going to require a significant wire line capability. The cost for that is probably going to be shared to some degree. We are really looking at a whole new way of doing things

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in many instances.

CHAIRMAN POWELL: The last item on the published agenda and I'm going to ask Marilyn Ward if she would comment on this briefly because it just should be reported in one of the subcommittees is NPSTC's role as a follow-on to the NCC.

MS. WARD: Good morning. Marilyn Ward,
NPSTC Chair. Yesterday we had a very lengthy
discussion about the NCC follow-up and how we were
going to be able to continue the work of the NCC.
Many of you know that NPSTC was created as a result
of the PISWAC processes wanting to do a follow-up to
the PISWAC and keep the group that had formed
together.

As far as in NCC, we feel that it's just as important with the NCC group. We thought and discussed how would we do that. We actually decided that we should form probably a separate group that would be like a subcommittee of NPSTC asking the manufacturers and vendors to participate and then have a representative from that group selected to be on the NPSTC governing board to bring back the

information. It's kind of what we do with our 4.9 and SDR groups.

Tom Cody came to the meeting and the Edge All Program has submitted funding to fund this process. At the conclusion of the NCC, we'll be able to still keep a lot of these initiatives that are going to be critical to the community still going. So we've received funding.

We are working on the training. We are actually training and we've trained 20 people and as of next week, there will be 22 people trained on the database for the pre-coordination. We are exploring the IP database. So we have multiple different initiatives going on.

We feel that we have to continue to maintain them. We have used this forum to do some of that and to be as inclusionary as possible with the manufacturing community and people that are not necessarily association member of NPSTC. However we are working now to formulate a process to be able to continue this after the NCC. So NPSTC would like to be on record as doing that and have the support also

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of the FCC in being able to go forward.

MR. McEWEN: Harlin McEwen, this time speaking as Marilyn's Vice Chair of the NPSTC in support of what she just said but to point out particularly, Michael, for the record that we feel that there probably are going to be on-going other issues that we're going to need to convey to the FCC as this all starts to unfold.

The fact that the NCC may not continue or probably will not continue in its present form there needs to be some kind of a public safety industry involvement in discussions so that we can come together and talk about things just like we're doing today to exchange information and come to the FCC with what we believe is the best kinds of recommendations. I think it's going to be important to have that on-going follow-up.

CHAIRMAN POWELL: I'll just make a couple of comments on the details. First of all, the intent is that we hold meetings initially at least twice a year and they will be open. All of you that are here as well as anyone else in the community that wants to

attend will be invited. NPSTC through the Support Office will provide meeting space and everything that's needed for meetings.

I believe we discussed and are planning to add two subcommittees, one for interoperability within NPSTC that will address interoperability not only within 700 but in just generally and then a separate 700 working group to look at probably will end up being more than anything implementation issues coming out of 700. We already have within NPSTC a subcommittee that represents the regional planning chairs. That currently exists so that we'll have input from the regional planning committees.

COMMISSIONER DEVINE: John, we also feel that from the regional planning perspective as these committees begin to develop and begin to put out products in many areas where the band is clear we don't have the incumbency issues, we're going to see more feedback and more issues and questions coming from the regions. We look to see that NPSTC is also providing the support in bringing those questions to the forefront and getting those questions answered

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from the regions as they begin to develop and generate some things that we haven't thought might rise to the surface. I'm sure there will be some of them.

CHAIRMAN POWELL: Any questions on that one from the audience? Any other new business that anyone would like to bring to the attention of the Committee? Seeing none, I guess we will adjourn.

Wait. Dave Eierman.

MR. EIERMAN: It's not new business.

It's just business. David Eierman, Motorola. I just wanted to clarify back on the nomenclature issue.

The guidelines currently say "All 700 public safety subscriber equipment using alpha-numeric display of at least six digits should be programmed to show the recommended label and table and Appendix A." The issue is that some of those labels are now seven digits long. Some are eight digits long. I think the Fed ones are seven now because you have made something like FTAC or something. I don't know what we're going to do there.

CHAIRMAN POWELL: Well, that's a good

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1	point to bring up because actually I think they were
2	not always that long.
3	MR. EIERMAN: I remember having a long
4	discussion about six versus eight digits and six
5	digits and you could direct mode some other way
6	besides putting the D on there. I think the intent
7	was that we were trying to keep the main part of the
8	label except for the D for direct mode six digits or
9	less. I don't know.
10	CHAIRMAN POWELL: Okay. How are we with
11	manufacturers' equipment today? Six character
12	limitation? Eight?
13	MR. EIERMAN: I don't remember. I don't
14	think we have a problem with eight on most of ours.
15	CHAIRMAN POWELL: You're talking current
16	production equipment. John.
17	MR. OBLAK: John Oblak from E.F. Johnson
18	Company. Speaking for our products, for those radios
19	that do have displays are at least eight. So we have
20	no limitation on eight. Certainly we might have a
21	product that has no display whatsoever.

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CHAIRMAN POWELL: That's understandable.

1	MR. OBLAK: But on radios that do have
2	displays, there are at least eight.
3	CHAIRMAN POWELL: Ernie, for your
4	products.
5	MR. HOFMEISTER: Ernie Hofmeister, MACOM.
6	It's really the same. Any display is capable of
7	eight or more.
8	CHAIRMAN POWELL: Okay. So it sounds
9	like we should change that recommendation to eight
10	then and resolve that issue. I don't know. At one
11	time, there were some products that had fewer than
12	eight. I'm not aware of any that are certainly being
13	marketed today that have fewer than that.
14	Any other comments? Any other items?
15	Dave? Make sure that we get that document so I know
16	what we're talking about. We'll include that in the
17	letter to the Steering Committee tomorrow of the
18	change since you have the document in your hand it
19	looks like. Someone does.
20	COMMISSIONER DEVINE: Is that in the
21	guidelines?
22	CHAIRMAN POWELL: Okay. If there are no

1	other items, then we'll go ahead and adjourn our
2	final meeting. I would like to thank all of you.
3	This seems to have been the core crowd for the last
4	few meetings for sticking with it to the end. I
5	think we have accomplished an awful lot in the years
6	that we've been working. Hopefully the community
7	will someday realize the benefits that all of our
8	joint efforts have produced for them. Thank you all
9	for being here and for participating. Tom, are you
10	going to do implementation since Teddy isn't here?
11	MR. SORLEY: Yes.
12	CHAIRMAN POWELL: Bette, how much time do
13	you need? Should we do an early lunch and come back?
14	Do it now? Glen's done. You got here later than we
15	did and you missed it.
16	MR. WILHELM: Let's take ten minutes.
17	CHAIRMAN POWELL: We're going to take a
18	ten minute break and Implementation will be on. Off
19	the record.
20	(Whereupon, the above-entitled matter was
21	concluded at 11:09 a.m.)